

## CONFIDENTIAL

### FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE HONG KONG BUREAU

MHK-5020  
2 November 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Foreign Broadcast Information Service  
THROUGH : Chief, Operations Group  
SUBJECT : Monthly Report--Hong Kong Bureau--October 1985

#### I. GENERAL

A. October was an especially busy month for the bureau. Publishable wordage (1,184,440) slightly surpassed last July's record high output. This record output was due to increased reporting on the Philippines. (See Operations, Section A for more details). The bureau chief went to Manila early in the month to explore coverage improvement options with senior embassy officers. Their views and recommendations have been passed on to FBIS Headquarters for further consideration and action.

25X1 B. An official visit to Beijing and Shanghai by [ ] scheduled for the last week of October, had to be cancelled. Visits laid on at the last minute for a host of senior U.S. Government  
25X1 officials overwhelmed the embassy and Beijing's hotel capacity. As a result, we were asked to reschedule [ ] trip for a later date. Coordination with the embassy and our Beijing contractor on 1986 press subscriptions is instead being done by wirefiled messages.

C. Vice President Bush and an entourage of 120 stopped in Hong Kong 18-20 October, following his visit to the PRC. Preparations for his visit brought most regular work at the Consulate to a standstill for several weeks and frazzled the nerves of the many Consulate officers involved in the visit. One commented that the advance team was the most arrogant bunch of ..... he had ever seen in his long foreign service career. Except for an after the visit communications problem (see Operations, section B), the bureau was relatively unbothered by all the carry on. Many of our employees have still to wash their right hands following a Consulate reception and an opportunity to meet and shake hands with the Vice President.

#### II. OPERATIONS

##### A. Monitorial/Editorial

1. The bureau stepped up its reporting on the Philippines during the month in response to the growing apprehension in Washington over developments in that country. Selection criteria, especially for the opposition media, have been expanded to provide consumers with any even greater amount of information from the media. Subscriptions to two more opposition weeklies (WE FORUM and MR. & MS.) have been taken out and copies are now being received.

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An attempt is also being made to subscribe to a Cebu paper, the VISAYAN HERALD. We have also arranged, starting the first of this month, to get the five Manila papers which are flown here daily delivered again on the evening of publication day. The vendor who provides these papers had stopped the evening delivery service several months ago and, despite promises to renew that service, had failed to do so. We have now arranged to have the man who makes daily deliveries of some of our Hong Kong and PRC papers pick up the Manila papers in Kowloon in the early evening and deliver to the bureau. We will have this service Mon-Fri evenings. Delivery on Sat-Sun will still have to be the morning after publication day due to the work hours of the vendor. Radio coverage, on the other hand, did not improve during the month. In fact, the 1100 GMT newscast on MBS (main government station) was dropped during the month. That cast had been virtually unmonitorable since mid-summer when MBS ceased broadcasting on one of its few monitorable frequencies. We will continue to spot check that cast.

With expanded press coverage and a flurry of activities in the Philippines during the month (the Laxalt visit, anti-Marcos and anti-U.S. demonstrations, IMF rejection of loans, etc.), bureau output soared. Total wordage from the Philippine papers and radios hit an all-time high of 227,810. Another 48,910 words were filed on the Philippines from AFP, producing a combined monthly figure of 276,720 words.

2. October started off with one very welcome change concerning our receipt of RENMIN RIBAO. Starting with the 1st of the month, the regular domestic edition of the paper started showing up at the bureau on the afternoon of publication day. Since 1 July, when the new overseas edition of the paper became available in Hong Kong, the regular paper had been available to us only by air mail subscription from Beijing, with delays of 4-7 days. As of 1 October the regular edition is being printed in Guangzhou (transmitted from Beijing via satellite) and shipped down to Hong Kong for distribution the afternoon of publication day. Several days during the month delivery was not until the following morning, but we are so pleased to again have quick access to the paper that an occasional glitch is acceptable.

3. Seasonal adjustments in frequencies have again made Wellington Radio monitorable here. Due to continuing consumer interest in our reporting on New Zealand, an airmail subscription to a second national daily, the NEW ZEALAND HERALD, is being arranged.

**B. Communications**

We experienced a major communications outage from the 22d through the 25th of the month. The initial problem, not traced out for nearly 36 hours, was found to be a "loop-back" on our line to TCU. Our line had inadvertently been connected to someone else's circuit when wires hooked up temporarily for the Bush visit were disconnected. After that problem was finally sorted out and the circuit operated for 5 hours, another outage developed. This was finally found to be due to an intermittent modum at the bureau. Our

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technicians now believe this was the result of having too many Comscribe printers tied into the modum at one time. They are designing a buffer device which they think will protect the modum in the future.

#### C. Lateral Services

1. At LRB's request, we began wirefiling the daily tables of Economic Indicators from Manila BUSINESS DAY.

2. Shanghai Consulate requested that Okinawa and Hong Kong bureaus begin filing on a trial basis selected materials dealing with the Consulate's region of responsibility. An upgrade of the Shanghai communications circuit has made this possible.

3. We have been coordinating with Bangkok Bureau on means to speed up their receipt of the Hanoi papers which are transshipped through Hong Kong. Experiments with various delivery means (pouch, APO, international air mail) indicate that pouching, the system that has been used in the past, is the least timely. We have now worked out an arrangement with the Hong Kong vendor where he will package and send the papers directly by international air mail. It is too early to tell, but we are hopeful that this new procedure will shorten their receipt time by as much as a week.

4. At Seoul Bureau's request, a Beijing videotape of a special program marking the 40th anniversary of the founding of the Korean Workers Party was pouched to them for embassy viewing.

#### D. Technical

1. Extel Corporation provided eight sets of new IC's and IC sockets to replace inferior and defective parts originally installed in our Comscribe printers. These defective parts were found by Extel to be the cause of intermittent problems with the new Comscribe printers.

2. The T-1 terminal equipment to be used in our microwave backup circuit is now in Hong Kong. However, upon receipt from the States it was found that the units had the wrong power supplies. Replacement power supplies have been ordered and are expected to reach Hong Kong before the end of the year. In the meantime, some further progress has been made with the circuit cable installation. Cables have been installed at the bureau and we are told that they should be in at Mt. Butler some time this month. These are only the connecting cables within the two sites; it is still uncertain when the main cable laying from Mt. Butler down to Wanchai will be finished.

### III. ADMINISTRATION

#### A. Personnel

1. TLA/SPA for Hong Kong has been raised for the second time this year, the new rate being \$76 a day. The rate went from \$53 to \$70 a day this past summer.

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2. [ ] entered on duty 28 October, filling our recently approved ninth commo operator position.

### B. Buildings and Grounds

An OS officer visited the bureau to discuss what to do about a problem with the doors to the rear emergency escape stairways. The two armor core doors which had been sent from Headquarters earlier this year were found to be hinged on the wrong side and unusable here. We have recommended that a local firm which specializes in such doors be authorized to provide two replacements. The OS rep, after consulting with the RSO, will make that recommendation to OS. The doors which we cannot use will be shipped elsewhere in the Far East. The OS officer also looked at another problem we have been having with our secure doors--cracking glass--and will submit his views to Washington.

### IV. VISITS

A. The bureau chief visited Manila 7-10 October to discuss Philippine coverage improvements.

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B. PRC Book Chief [ ] visited the bureau 9-11 October, meeting and talking with bureau staff and getting some hands-on field editorial experience several evenings.

C. Harold Brownman and Robert Melnick, president and vice president respectively of Lockheed Electronics, spent several hours at the bureau the afternoon of the 12th. They were in town on other business and wanted to visit an FBIS bureau.

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D. OS representative [ ] on 28 October.

✓ Bureau Chief

Attachment: Monthly Production Report

cc: Original and 3 - Hqs  
1 - C/Okinawa  
1 - C/Bangkok  
1 - C/Seoul

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## HONG KONG BUREAU PRODUCTION REPORT FOR OCTOBER 1985

## I. TOTALS FROM ALL SOURCES:

|   |         |
|---|---------|
| TOTAL PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:         | 1184440 |
| TOTAL NON-PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:     | 121300  |
| TOTAL NUMBER OF PUBLISHABLE ITEMS FILED DURING MONTH: | 1966    |

|             |                |               |
|-------------|----------------|---------------|
| BROAD-CASTS | PRESS AGENCIES | PUBLI-CATIONS |
|-------------|----------------|---------------|

|                                |      |       |     |
|--------------------------------|------|-------|-----|
| II. INPUT OF REGULAR COVERAGE: | 5410 | 10140 | 270 |
|--------------------------------|------|-------|-----|

III. OUTPUT FROM ALL SOURCES:  
(PUBLISHABLE WORDS PER MONTH)

## CHINA

|  |       |
|--|-------|
| BEIJING INTERNATIONAL SERVICE IN TAGALOG           | 2180  |
| BEIJING TELEVISION SERVICE IN MANDARIN             | 6370  |
| CHANGSHA HUNAN PROVINCIAL SERVICE IN MANDARIN      | 9950  |
| CHENGDU SICHUAN PROVINCIAL SERVICE IN MANDARIN     | 16960 |
| GUANGZHOU GUANGDONG PROVINCIAL SERVICE IN MANDARIN | 8860  |
| GUIYANG GUIZHOU PROVINCIAL SERVICE IN MANDARIN     | 8630  |
| HAIKOU HAINAN ISLAND SERVICE IN MANDARIN           | 2650  |
| KUNMING YUNNAN PROVINCIAL SERVICE IN MANDARIN      | 15610 |
| LANZHOU GANSU PROVINCIAL SERVICE IN MANDARIN       | 9430  |
| LHASA XIZANG REGIONAL SERVICE IN MANDARIN          | 7020  |
| NANNING GUANGXI REGIONAL SERVICE IN MANDARIN       | 10910 |
| TAIYUN SHANXI PROVINCIAL SERVICE IN MANDARIN       | 6620  |
| URUMQI XINJIANG REGIONAL SERVICE IN MANDARIN       | 13580 |
| WUHAN HUBEI PROVINCIAL SERVICE IN MANDARIN         | 8790  |
| XIAN SHAANXI PROVINCIAL SERVICE IN MANDARIN        | 7560  |
| XINING QINGHAI PROVINCIAL SERVICE IN MANDARIN      | 4660  |
| ZHENGZHOU HENAN PROVINCIAL SERVICE IN MANDARIN     | 7780  |
| BEIJING XINHUA HONG KONG SERVICE IN CHINESE        | 9770  |

|   |        |
|---|--------|
| BEIJING ZHONGGUO XINWEN SHE IN<br>CHINESE           | 43960  |
| BEIJING BAN YUE TAN IN<br>CHINESE                   | 14170  |
| BEIJING BAOGAO WENXUE IN<br>CHINESE                 | 0      |
| BEIJING BEIJING WANBAO IN<br>CHINESE                | 0      |
| BEIJING CHINA DAILY IN<br>ENGLISH                   | 28050  |
| BEIJING GONGREN RIBAO IN<br>CHINESE                 | 1690   |
| BEIJING GUANGMING RIBAO IN<br>CHINESE               | 28460  |
| BEIJING GUOJI SHANGBAO IN<br>CHINESE                | 0      |
| BEIJING GUOJI WENTI YANJIU IN<br>CHINESE            | 0      |
| BEIJING HONGQI IN<br>CHINESE                        | 80210  |
| BEIJING HUANQIU IN<br>CHINESE                       | 0      |
| BEIJING JIEFANGJUN WENYI IN<br>CHINESE              | 0      |
| BEIJING JINGJI GUANLI IN<br>CHINESE                 | 13410  |
| BEIJING JINGJI RIBAO IN<br>CHINESE                  | 26200  |
| BEIJING JINGJIXUE ZHOUBAO IN<br>CHINESE             | 670    |
| BEIJING JINGJI YANJIU IN<br>CHINESE                 | 30610  |
| BEIJING LIAOWANG IN<br>CHINESE                      | 23590  |
| BEIJING LISHI YANJIU IN<br>CHINESE                  | 0      |
| BEIJING NONGMIN RIBAO IN<br>CHINESE                 | 1600   |
| BEIJING RENMIN RIBAO IN<br>CHINESE                  | 100330 |
| BEIJING RENMIN RIBAO OVERSEAS EDITION IN<br>CHINESE | 8550   |
| BEIJING SHIJIE JINGJI IN<br>CHINESE                 | 3350   |
| BEIJING SHIJIE LISHI IN<br>CHINESE                  | 0      |
| BEIJING SHIJIE ZHISHI IN<br>CHINESE                 | 4580   |
| BEIJING WENXUE PINGLUN IN<br>CHINESE                | 0      |
| BEIJING WENYI BAO IN<br>CHINESE                     | 1340   |
| BEIJING WENZHAI BAO IN<br>CHINESE                   | 0      |
| BEIJING XINWEN ZHANXIAN IN<br>CHINESE               | 0      |

|                                       |      |        |
|---------------------------------------|------|--------|
| BEIJING ZHEXUE YANJIU IN              |      |        |
| CHINESE                               |      | 0      |
| BEIJING ZHONGGUO FAZHI BAO IN         |      |        |
| CHINESE                               |      | 1740   |
| BEIJING ZHONGGUO QINGNIAN BAO IN      |      |        |
| CHINESE                               |      | 0      |
| CHENGDU SICHUAN RIBAO IN              |      |        |
| CHINESE                               |      | 0      |
| CHONGQING CHONGQING RIBAO IN          |      |        |
| CHINESE                               |      | 1560   |
| FUZHOU ZHONGGUO JINGJI WENTI IN       |      |        |
| CHINESE                               |      | 0      |
| GUANGZHOU GUANGZHOU RIBAO IN          |      |        |
| CHINESE                               |      | 0      |
| GUANGZHOU KAIFANG IN                  |      |        |
| CHINESE                               |      | 13470  |
| GUANGZHOU NANFANG RIBAO IN            |      |        |
| CHINESE                               |      | 610    |
| GUANGZHOU YANGCHENG WANBAO IN         |      |        |
| CHINESE                               |      | 0      |
| HAIKOU HAINAN RIBAO IN                |      |        |
| CHINESE                               |      | 3710   |
| KUNMING YUNNAN RIBAO IN               |      |        |
| CHINESE                               |      | 1230   |
| LANZHOU LANZHOU WANBAO IN             |      |        |
| CHINESE                               |      | 0      |
| SHANGHAI SHIJIE JINGJI DAOBAO IN      |      |        |
| CHINESE                               |      | 5300   |
| TAIYUAN SHANXI RIBAO IN               |      |        |
| CHINESE                               |      | 930    |
| WUHAN CHANGJIANG RIBAO IN             |      |        |
| CHINESE                               |      | 0      |
| WUHAN HUBEI RIBAO IN                  |      |        |
| CHINESE                               |      | 710    |
| XIAN SHAANXI RIBAO IN                 |      |        |
| CHINESE                               |      | 1600   |
| YINCHUAN NINGXIA RIBAO IN             |      |        |
| CHINESE                               |      | 2950   |
|                                       |      |        |
| HONG KONG                             |      |        |
| HONG KONG ASIA TELEVISION LTD IN      |      |        |
| ENGLISH                               | 0    |        |
| HONG KONG TELEVISION BROADCAST LTD IN |      |        |
| ENGLISH                               | 0    |        |
| HONG KONG COMMERCIAL RADIO IN         |      |        |
| ENGLISH                               | 940  |        |
| HONG KONG DOMESTIC SERVICE IN         |      |        |
| ENGLISH                               | 1850 |        |
| HONG KONG AFP IN                      |      |        |
| ENGLISH                               |      | 179530 |
| HONG KONG ASIAWEEK IN                 |      |        |
| ENGLISH                               |      | 3410   |
| HONG KONG CHANWANG IN                 |      |        |
| CHINESE                               |      | 0      |

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|---|-------|
| HONG KONG CHENG MING IN<br>CHINESE  | 20340 |
| HONG KONG CHING PAO IN<br>CHINESE   | 0     |
| HONG KONG CHIUSHIH NIENTAI IN<br>CHINESE                                    | 0     |
| HONG KONG FAR EASTERN ECONOMIC REVIEW IN<br>ENGLISH                         | 5650  |
| HONG KONG HONG KONG STANDARD IN<br>ENGLISH                                  | 8800  |
| HONG KONG HONG KONG STANDARD (BUSINESS STANDARD SUPPLEMENT) IN<br>ENGLISH   | 6040  |
| HONG KONG HSIN WAN PAO IN<br>CHINESE  | 2650  |
| HONG KONG KUANG CHIAO CHING IN<br>CHINESE                                   | 8360  |
| HONG KONG MING PAO IN<br>CHINESE  | 5680  |
| HONG KONG PAI HSING IN<br>CHINESE   | 4680  |
| HONG KONG SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST IN<br>ENGLISH                            | 26020 |
| HONG KONG SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST (BUSINESS NEWS SUPPLEMENT) IN<br>ENGLISH | 28120 |
| HONG KONG TA KUNG PAO IN<br>CHINESE   | 5940  |
| HONG KONG TA KUNG PAO IN<br>ENGLISH   | 2550  |
| HONG KONG WEN WEI PO IN<br>CHINESE  | 11990 |

|   |       |
|---|-------|
| NEW ZEALAND                               |       |
| WELLINGTON OVERSEAS SERVICE IN<br>ENGLISH | 7810  |
| WELLINGTON THE EVENING POST IN<br>ENGLISH | 24360 |

|   |       |
|---|-------|
| PHILIPPINES   |       |
| MANILA FAR EAST BROADCASTING COMPANY IN<br>ENGLISH      | 15080 |
| MANILA FAR EAST BROADCASTING COMPANY IN<br>TAGALOG      | 2310  |
| MANILA RADIO VERITAS IN<br>TAGALOG                      | 0     |
| DAGUPAN CITY DZDL RADIO IN<br>TAGALOG                   | 800   |
| QUEZON CITY MAHARLIKA BROADCASTING SYSTEM IN<br>ENGLISH | 9860  |
| MANILA BULLETIN TODAY IN<br>ENGLISH                     | 33410 |
| MANILA BUSINESS DAY IN<br>ENGLISH                       | 66790 |



|  |       |
|--|-------|
| MANILA METRO MANILA TIMES IN<br>ENGLISH            | 22880 |
| MANILA MR AND MS SPECIAL EDITION IN<br>ENGLISH     | 2540  |
| MANILA PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS IN<br>ENGLISH     | 12570 |
| MANILA PHILIPPINES SUNDAY EXPRESS IN<br>ENGLISH    | 640   |
| MANILA TIMES JOURNAL IN<br>ENGLISH                 | 23230 |
| DAVAO CITY PEOPLE'S DAILY FORUM IN<br>ENGLISH      | 1690  |
| DAVAO CITY SAN PEDRO EXPRESS IN<br>ENGLISH         | 1250  |
| DAVAO CITY THE MINDANAO DAILY MIRROR IN<br>ENGLISH | 2750  |
| QUEZON CITY ANG PAHAYAGANG MALAYA IN<br>ENGLISH    | 18360 |
| QUEZON CITY VERITAS IN<br>ENGLISH                  | 6960  |
| QUEZON CITY WE FORUM IN<br>ENGLISH                 | 6690  |